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## TRANSACTIONS OF THE SOCIETY FOR 1881.

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Annual Meeting held at Chickering Hall, corner of Eighteenth Street and Fifth Avenue, New York, on Tuesday evening, January 11th, Chief-Justice DALY, President of the Society, in the chair.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was, on motion, dispensed with.

The following named candidates, on the recommendation of the Council, were declared duly elected members of the Society :

*Fellows.*—John S. Kennedy, Edwin Baldwin, Jerome B. Chaffee, Hugh J. Jewett, John M. Carnochan, M.D., Russell Hinman, Frederick H. Hoadley, M.D., Frederick W. Adee, Grenville Kane, Courtland G. Babcock and Thomas Rider.

The annual report of the Treasurer, Mr. Levi P. Morton, was read by Mr. Harlow M. Hoyt, Chairman of Finance Committee, showing a cash balance to the credit of the Society, in the general fund, of \$623.93, and in the permanent fund of \$10,738.87. The report was accepted and ordered on file.

The annual report of the Council was read by Mr. W. H. H. Moore, and is as follows :

The Council reports the condition of the Society as very satisfactory.

Since the last annual report eight meetings of the Society and fourteen meetings of the Council have been held.

On the 13th day of January, 1880, Benjamin Robbins Curtis, Esq., of Boston, read a paper entitled "A Journey Around the World."

On February 10th, 1880, Prof. John B. McMaster, of Princeton College, read a paper entitled "The Bad Lands, or *Mauvaises Terres*, of Wyoming."

On February 27th, 1880, a reception was given to M. de Lesseps at the Society's building, No. 11 West Twenty-ninth Street.

On March 23d, 1880, Chief-Justice Daly, President of the Society, delivered his annual address upon "The Geographical Work of the World in 1878 and 1879."

On April 26th, 1880, the Rev. Edward W. Syle, D.D., read a paper on "Japan as it Is."

On May 25th, 1880, the Rev. B. F. De Costa read a paper entitled "Arctic Exploration, Ancient and Modern."

On October 28th, 1880, a meeting was held for the reception of Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka, U. S. Army, and his associates of the Franklin Arctic Search Party, when addresses were made by Chief-Justice Daly, Lieut. Schwatka, Doctor Isaac I. Hayes and Captain William Arthur, naval attaché of the British Legation in Washington.

On November 18th the Rev. Owen Street read a paper on the subject of "The Changes in the Physical Geography of the Ancient Home of Man in Central and Western Asia."

On December 23d, 1880, Mr. Thomas Davidson, of Boston, read a paper on "The Recent Excavations and Discoveries at Athens and Olympia."

All the lectures but one were illustrated by stereopticon views.

The annual report of the Treasurer shows a satisfactory condition of the finances of the Society.

Sixty-three Fellows have been elected and qualified during the year, and eleven existing Fellows have become life Fellows by the payment of \$100 each. Three corresponding members have been elected.

The publications of the Society during the year have been three Bulletins. Volumes XI. and XII. of the Journal will shortly be issued. The high estimation in which these publications are held in Europe and America is attested by the frequent applications for them by travellers, scientific men and learned institutions.

The Society exchanges and is in correspondence with 119 geographical and other scientific bodies of Europe and America.

The additions to the library of the Society and its map-rooms have amounted to 1,265 items, of which 704 are books; 474 pamphlets, 83 maps and 4 atlases.

The State survey, so long desired and so warmly advocated by the Society, as well as by DeWitt Clinton and Horatio Seymour when they were Governors of the State, exhibits in its Annual Report for 1879 a gratifying amount of work accomplished during the year. The Commissioners stated that "the work of the past season gives the means of making important additions to the State Survey Map of parts of Onondaga, Oswego, Madison and Oneida Counties; locating, as it does, the geographical positions of seventeen villages

and towns. In co-operation with the United States engineers in charge of the improvement of the Hudson, monuments a mile apart have been placed along both banks of the river between Albany and New Baltimore, forming a connected series of permanent landmarks, to which will be referred both the bulkhead lines, established by law, and the boundaries thus established will undoubtedly prove the importance of applying elsewhere a similar system of land surveying." It is known that the work has been pushed during 1880 with as much vigor as the means at the disposition of the Commissioners would permit, and the results of the labors of the past season will equal in value and extent the satisfactory results of the preceding one.

In conclusion, the Council felicitates the Fellows on the very prosperous condition of the Society.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE W. CULLUM,

*Chairman of Council.*

The Committee on Nominations presented the following report :

The Nominating Committee appointed to select officers to fill vacancies, under resolution of the Society, passed at its meeting December 23d, 1880, respectfully report the selection of the following nominees for election, in accordance with Chap. 5, Sec. 2 of the By-Laws :

FOR PRESIDENT—Charles P. Daly, LL.D., term to expire, January, 1882.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT—Francis A. Stout, term to expire, January, 1884.

FOR DOMESTIC CORRESPONDING SECRETARY—James Muhlenberg Bailey, term to expire, January, 1884.

FOR TREASURER—Levi P. Morton, term to expire, January, 1882.

FOR COUNCILLORS—William Remsen, Harlow M. Hoyt, Henry B. Hammond, Clarence King, George R. Blanchard, terms to expire, January, 1884 ; Charles H. Baldwin, U. S. Navy, term to expire, January, 1882.

Respectfully,

(Signed)

THEODORE W. DWIGHT (Chairman),

JAMES O. SMITH, M.D.,

N. P. BAILEY,

*Nominating Committee.*

The above report was, on motion, unanimously adopted.

The Society then proceeded to a ballot, which resulted in the unanimous election of the above-given ticket.

Commander John R. Bartlett, U. S. Navy, was introduced, and read a paper on "The Recent Investigations of the Gulf Stream, by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Steamer *Blake*," illustrated by models, views and maps.

The thanks of the Society were extended to Commander Bartlett for his very valuable paper, and a copy of it was requested for publication in the Society Bulletin.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

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Meeting (special) of January 25th, held at Chickering Hall, New York.

Chief-Justice Daly in the chair.

The reading of the minutes of January 11th was, on motion, dispensed with.

The following named gentlemen, on the recommendation of the Council, were declared duly elected members of the Society :

*Fellows.*—Commander John R. Bartlett, U. S. Navy ; Joseph F. Stone, Henry P. Butler, F. M. Dean, Charles G. Barber, Thomas Henderson, Jr., H. B. Davies, Godfrey H. Lundie, R. M. Gallaway and A. A. Vantine.

General George W. Cullum, U. S. Army, Vice-President of the Society, was introduced and read a paper on "The Land of Egypt," illustrated with stereopticon views.

The thanks of the Society, on motion, were given to General Cullum for his entertaining and valuable paper, and a copy of it requested for publication.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

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Meeting of February 17th, held at Chickering Hall, New York.

General George W. Cullum, Vice-President, in the chair.

The reading of the minutes of January 25th was, on motion, dispensed with.

The following named gentlemen, on the recommendation of the Council, were declared duly elected members of the Society :

*Fellows.*—John Wilson, John Mildeberger and Thomas S. Adams.

Mr. John Banvard read a paper on “The Hierology and Reading of the Obelisks of Egypt,” illustrated by charts, diagrams and paintings on canvas, executed from original drawings made by himself while in Egypt.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

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Meeting of March 25th, held at Chickering Hall, New York. Chief-Justice Daly, President, in the chair.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, February 17th, on motion, dispensed with.

The following named gentlemen, on the recommendation of the Council, were declared duly elected members of the Society :

*Fellows.*—Frederic C. Whitehouse, Augustus L. Brown, Louis Kirsch, Charles B. Canfield, William Libbey, Jr., Clarence F. Pierce and J. C. F. Randolph.

Lieutenant-Commander H. H. Gorringer, U. S. Navy, read a paper entitled “A Cruise Along the Northern Coast of Africa,” illustrated by stereopticon views of statuary found at Cyrene, and the ruins of some ancient cities.

The thanks of the Society, on motion, were given to Commander Gorringer for his able paper, and a copy of it was requested for publication.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

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Meeting of May 10th, held at Chickering Hall, New York, General George W. Cullum, U. S. Army, Vice-President, in the chair.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, March 25th, was, on motion, dispensed with.

The following named gentlemen, on the recommendation of the Council, were declared duly elected members of the Society :

*Fellows.*—Ralph N. Ellis, E. Stern, Rev. M. Nichot and Ross Raymond.

*Corresponding Member.*—Doctor Ernesto do Canto, St. Michaels', Azores.

Mr. James Douglas, Jr., read a paper on "Chile: its Geography, People and Institutions," illustrated with stereopticon views.

On motion, the thanks of the Society were extended to Mr. Douglas for his valuable paper, and a copy of it was requested for publication.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

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Meeting of November 25th, held at Chickering Hall, New York, General George W. Cullum, Vice-President, in the chair.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, May 10th, was, on motion, dispensed with.

The following named gentlemen, on the recommendation of the Council, were declared duly elected members of the Society:

*Fellows.*—Flavel McGee, R. H. Thompson, John R. Andrews, Leon Abbett, Christopher C. Baldwin, Augustus F. Docharty, Joseph H. Fairbanks, A. Gomez, Woodbury G. Langdon, Rev. M. A. Hunt, O.M.I., Joseph J. Little, George Green, Eben S. Allen, Edwin R. Livermore, William Berend, Cecil de Wilton Grey and A. D. Taylor.

Doctor Isaac Israel Hayes (Arctic Explorer), was introduced and delivered a lecture on "The Water-Ways of New York," considered in relation to the transportation interests of the State and the commerce of the city.

On motion, the thanks of the Society were given to Dr. Hayes, for his eloquent, interesting and able lecture, with the request that he prepare it for publication in the Society's Journal.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

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Meeting of December 21st, held at Chickering Hall, New York, General George W. Cullum, U. S. Army, Vice-President, in the chair.

In calling the meeting to order, General Cullum said:

"Before proceeding to the business of this meeting it is manifestly proper that it should be officially announced to the Society that the *Jeannette*, fitted out by the munificence of our enterprising and

most liberal fellow member, Mr. James Gordon Bennett, has been crushed in the ice, but that fortunately, most of her crew, including the noble Captain De Long, after terrible suffering, have escaped with their lives to the mouth of the Lena River, and it is hoped are far on their way to their homes.

"The full account in this morning's papers renders it unnecessary that I should give the details of this sad catastrophe which has been long feared, and has now terminated the ultimate expectation that American skill and valor would soon force a way to the Pole, and thus solve the interesting Arctic problem of either an open or paleocrystic sea.

"I will now point out on the map before you the course of the *Jeannette*, which left San Francisco, July 8, 1879, passed through Behring Strait, and was finally abandoned June 11, 1881, near the New Siberian Islands, thus almost literally fulfilling the prophecy of Lieutenant Hovgaard, of the Danish Navy. He says: 'If the *Jeannette* were left far east of Cape Chelyuskin, it would have been more natural to go for the inhabited places at the Lena, and I am therefore of the opinion that her crew must have come ashore somewhere near.'"

General Cullum then indicated with a rod on the large map behind him the course of the *Jeannette* from Behring Strait to the point where the crushing in the ice took place, and then the course to the mouth of the Lena River traversed in the small boats.

General Cullum announced to the Society the death of Doctor Isaac I. Hayes, and submitted a biographical sketch of this eminent American Arctic explorer (see Bulletin No. 3, 1881).

Mr. Elial F. Hall, then offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the members of this Society, while they bow in reverent submission to the will of Providence, who has so suddenly taken from them their associate, Doctor Isaac I. Hayes, cannot omit to place upon record, at this their first meeting since his death, an expression of the deep regret and sincere sorrow over so untimely and irreparable loss which they have thus sustained.

*Resolved*, That while in the lifetime of the deceased, this Society and its members were justly proud of those achievements which placed him in the front rank of Arctic explorers, and crowned him with a world-wide fame; so now that he is gone from them, they



will ever cultivate and cherish the memory of those achievements as a precious inheritance from him to them.

*Resolved*, That the lively interest taken by the deceased in the progress of geographical science, his zeal and enthusiasm for exploration and discovery, his readiness, ability and eloquence in the presentation and discussion of geographical subjects, and his other qualities of mind and heart which endeared him to a large circle of friends, and made him a favorite and ornament of this Society, will ever be held in affectionate remembrance by its officers and members.

*Resolved*, That the Society extends its heartfelt sympathy to the afflicted family of the deceased, and that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to them by the Secretary.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, November 25th, was, on motion, dispensed with.

The following named gentlemen, on the recommendation of the Council, were declared duly elected members of the Society.

*Fellows*.—Herman O. Armour, Henry L. Clinton, George Griswold Haven, Bradish Johnson, Jr., George A. Robbins, Fred. E. Ballin, Nathan Chandler, James A. Garland, Clarence F. Fearing, Charles B. Hoffman, Samuel D. Babcock, John C. Giles, Edward A. Farrington, William R. Grace, Frederick W. Foote, T. P. Travers, Silas C. Evans, J. Bowers Lee, Brayton Ives, Thomas B. Coddington, John A. Dodge, Robert Ray Hamilton, James Gallatin, Henry Landon Backus, William H. Fearing, Henry A. Oakley, William Dowd, Henry C. Andrews, Richard S. Haines, Frederick W. Rhinelanders and Charles A. Post.

The President, upon motion, appointed Dr. David P. Holton, Chairman; Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet and Mr. David S. Banks, the Nominating Committee to select suitable candidates for officers of the Society, under Chap. V., Sec. 2, of the By-Laws, and to report at the Society's annual meeting in January, 1882.

Rev. William Elliot Griffis (author of "Mikado's Empire," and late of the Imperial University of Tokio, Japan) was introduced and delivered a lecture on "Corea, the Hermit Nation," illustrated by stereopticon views.

On motion, the thanks of the Society were given to Mr. Griffis, and he was requested to prepare a copy of his paper for publication.

On motion, the Society adjourned.